

Change in Indo-China relations

†1162. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the kind of positive change came about in Indo-China relations after China visit by the Prime Minister and the Minister of External Affairs of India;

(b) whether India has been able to change China's attitude towards Pakistan; and

(c) if so, in what manner and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH]: (a) to (c) External Affairs Minister (EAM) Smt. Sushma Swaraj visited China from 31 January to 03 February, 2015. During the visit, Note Verbales to finalize the modalities to commence Kailash Mansarovar Yatra through Nathu La starting in June, 2015 were exchanged.

Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi visited China from 14-16 May, 2015. The visit resulted in 24 MoUs/Agreements in very broad subject areas *e.g.* Science and Technology, Railways, Education, Trade and Commerce etc. and 26 Business Agreements/MoUs valued at over US\$ 22 Billion were signed. Bilateral engagement was expanded through creation of State/Provincial Leaders' Forum.

During the meetings with the Chinese side, various issues of mutual interest and concern were discussed. Chinese side emphasized their policy of attaching priority to the development of good-neighbourly and friendly bilateral relations with India.

Indians migrated to US on H1B visa

1163. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large number of Indian professionals migrated to US on H1B visas during the last two years, and this year, if so, the details during the period, year-wise;

(b) whether the US has committed to increase such visas for Indian professionals, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH]: (a) As per the US Department of State, the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.